



HON. JOHN POWERS.

The Able Chicago Alderman Who Will Be Elected to the State Senate.

PUNISHED FOR AN INSULT.

Mexican Opera House Has Remained Tenants for Seven Years.

For seven years one of the most beautiful opera houses on the North American continent, that at Guanajuato, Mexico, has been tenanted. Its original cost was \$1,250,000, yet its stage has never been trodden by actor or musician. It has been under a ban because of an insult offered to President Diaz.

When Mexico was lifting its head just above revolts, riots and revolutions two men stood prominently before the people as leaders. One was Diaz, the other Gonzalez. It was arranged, therefore, so the story goes, that the presidency of the Mexican people should alternate between Diaz and Gonzalez and the programme was carried out until the time came when Diaz should have abdicated in favor of Gonzalez's second term.

At this particular time Diaz thought any change might endanger results, so said to Gonzalez: "You go and take charge of the State of Guanajuato as its Governor. It is more important that you should be there than in the President's chair."

Gonzalez obeyed, but the people resented the nonfulfillment of the articles of the contract and they waited revenge. It came.

Diaz, some eleven years ago, decided to tour his great republic. He was received with ovations everywhere. On entering the city of Guanajuato, however, his carriage was stoned and he was insulted. The story further states that 100 men were shot partly to avenge the insult, but apparently Diaz has a memory. Gonzalez died. Since then his people have had time to repent.

Three years after the insult another Governor was elected over the State of Guanajuato, also a Gonzalez, and a warm personal friend of the President. To furnish a playhouse at the capital of his State he raised the necessary \$1,250,000, and the building was erected, but it could not be of any practical use until the President of the republic opened it. This Diaz has not as yet done.

But the President, while unforgiving, is, above all else, progressive. So it is claimed that at a very near date he will open the place officially and be given a reception unprecedented in the history of Mexico. It is further stated that American influence is largely responsible for the relenting. It is stated that the influence of this foreign capital has been brought to bear on the President. In the main this may be true, but should Diaz visit Guanajuato officially his presence there will be due largely to the man who is at present governor and who bears the same last name as the old governor.

Policemen and Firemen!
Remember to vote against Charles M. Walker on election day. He is the Corporation Counsel under whose legal advice you and your families lost one month's pay this year. Beat him at the polls.

GULF STREAM MARKS.

Its Course Through the Ocean Plainly Indicated.

The color of the stream is a perceptibly deeper blue than that of the neighboring sea, this blueness forming one of the standard references of the nautical novelists. The depth of color is due to the high percentage of salt contained, as compared with the cold green water of higher latitudes, observation having shown that more salt held in solution by sea water the more intensely blue is its color. Thus even in extratropical latitudes we sometimes observe water of a beautiful blue color, as, for instance, in the Mediterranean and in other nearly land-locked basins, where the influx of fresher water being more or less impeded the percentage of salt contained is raised by evaporation above the average.

Another important fact in connection with the stream is its almost tropical temperature, due to the fact that its high velocity enables it to reach the middle latitudes with very little loss of heat. Upon entering its limits the temperature of the sea water frequently shows a rise of ten degrees and even fifteen degrees. It was this fact that gave to the stream in the latter years of the eighteenth century and the earlier years of the nineteenth an importance in the minds of navigators that it no longer possesses. In those days the chronometer, invented by Harrison in

1765, was still an experiment. Instruments were crude and nautical tables often at fault. The result was that the determination of the longitude was largely a matter of guesswork, a vessel after a voyage from the channel to America often being out of her reckoning by degrees instead of by minutes.

The idea, first suggested by Benjamin Franklin, that the master of a vessel, by observing the temperature of the surface water, could tell the moment of its entry into the gulf stream and could hence fix his position to within a few miles, was hailed with delight. The method was published in 1799 by Jonathan Williams in a work lengthily entitled "Thermometrical Navigation, being a series of experiments and observations tending to prove that by ascertaining the relative heat of the sea water from time to time, the passage of a ship through the gulf stream, and from deep water into soundings, may be discovered in time to avoid danger." In this work he makes the patriotic comparison of the gulf stream to a streak of red, white and blue painted upon the surface of the sea for the guidance of American navigators.—National Geographic Magazine.

Fortune's Bottled Beer.

The Fortune Brewing Company has added to its large plant a magnificent bottling establishment. The new works adjoin the brewery on Van Buren street, west of Desplaines, and are fitted up with the latest and most improved machinery. Their capacity is very great, and the quality of the goods turned out of the very best. One of the features of the plant is the arrangement for cooling the beer. Not only has the latest cooling machinery been introduced, but the building in which the bottling is done is adjoined by another building in which freezing apparatus is placed. This keeps the temperature of the very walls at freezing point all the time. The Fortune Brewery produces a beer which is famous the world over. Now that its bottling works are completed, no residence should be without it. Telephone "Monroe 40."

A Chicago Porter.

And—a lady from Boston. Scene—Pullman car, entering St. Louis. Porter obsequiously whisk-brooming woman passenger. After lingering expectantly he receives a tip—a 5-cent nickel. He looks at it critically, then drops it into the cuspidor, remarking defiantly: "Ah'm er portah from Chicago!" "Open this window!" commands the woman. He obeys, whereupon she stoops, picks up the cuspidor, and empties it upon the track; then, drawing herself up haughtily, observes, "I am a lady from Boston." When, in the station, every passenger had left the car, the porter said to the conductor: "Los' dat nickel, en' Ah'm er fool. It teaches me er lesson, howsomdever, never ter fool wid none o' dese Yankee women. Why, dey ain't er woman through de whole West whod'er thought o' castin' dat nickel on de roadside when dey knowed Ah wanted it."—New York Press.

A German aeronaut is training a team of eagles to steer his balloon. Some ambitious high-flyer may yet attempt to "hitch his chariot to a star."

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MET THE FATE OF ST. PIERRE.

What Pick and Shovel Has Brought to Light in Buried Pompeii.

The ill-fated, lava-flooded districts of the West Indies in the neighborhood of Mont Pelée and La Soufriere, constantly present to the mind thoughts of the catastrophe of early history, when the long-quiet Vesuvius awoke with a start from its lethargy and in the awakening showered death and destruction upon Pompeii. The ruination of the ancient Italian city, although not attended with so great a mortality, has otherwise much in common with the modern and more overwhelming disaster of St. Pierre.

Pompeii rested in a fertile spot within the shadow of Vesuvius and overlooking the Bay of Naples. Its early history is obscured in a haze of unreliable stories and legends, but the place seems to have been at one time a flourishing commercial town, besides being a favorite resort for many wealthy Romans, including Cicero.

About the year 63 A. D. the city suffered severely from a series of earthquakes, and only some sixteen years later, when the people had nearly completed the restoration of their shattered buildings, the final calamity fell upon the city and buried it fathoms deep in a chaos of volcanic mat-



STREET OF THE TOMBS, POMPEII.

ter. The population of Pompeii at that time is thought to have been about 15,000, most of whom, in some manner, managed to escape. It is remarkable that but few bodies or skeletons have been exhumed during the process of excavation, and this fact leads to the opinion that the eruption did not come entirely without warning.

For centuries the surface of the lava bed over the dead city remained unbroken, the people seeming to have lost trace of the location of the buried city, and it was not until 1748 that some objects found by a peasant attracted the notice of Charles III. of Naples and led him to make experimental excavations. After some encouraging discoveries had been made, the work was allowed to lag until, in 1861, the government of Victor Emmanuel appointed the accomplished Fiorilli to superintend the excavations. Since that time the work has been conducted with system and care and the extent and importance of the discoveries have amply repaid for the trouble and labor involved. The illustration shows the Street of the Tombs, in Pompeii, as it appears to-day.

Only one-third of the city has been laid bare, but findings of great interest and value to the antiquarian and classical scholar have rewarded the researchers. Among the important structures whose ruins have been uncovered are the amphitheater, the temple of Isis, the Forum Civile, the temples of Mercury and Jupiter, the Pantheon, the Basilica, or temple of Venus, the court of justice, prisons and tombs. Within the walls, many invaluable works of art, such as statues and wonderfully preserved draperies and paintings, have also been unearthed. The work of investigation goes on steadily and it is believed that future developments will add greatly to the stock of information and knowledge already gleaned from the achievements of a people eighteen centuries dead.

The area inundated by the flood of lava from Vesuvius, together with the number of victims, was less than that of the West Indian upheaval, but the latter will never attain the historic eminence that has been accorded to the ancient eruption. In the one instance, the works of art of a great people were rent into ruin, and even in this condition remained wonderful creations, while in the modern eruption, death was dealt to a land of comparatively low intelligence and attainments, and beyond the appalling loss of life, the resurrecting of that which has been destroyed would mean but little.

Fond of Smoking.

Smoking in church is a Dutch custom. Dutchmen are such inveterate smokers that one of them is rarely seen without his pipe. He finds himself unable to deprive himself of the indulgence even for the short period of a church service. A similar practice exists in several churches in South America. Smoking in churches in Great Britain is said to have been prevalent at the end of the sixteenth century. At one time smoking was carried to such an excess in Seville Cathedral that the Chapter applied to the Pope for power to repress the abuse. Urban VIII., yielding to their wish, issued a bull, which was promulgated Jan. 30, 1642. In Wales smoking in church was indulged in as late as 1856. In one church the communion table stood in the aisle, and the farmers were in the habit of putting their hats upon it, and when the service began they lighted their pipes and smoked, without any thought of irreverence in the act.

Different.

Cholly—May Gabbie tell me you said Gussey Gayboy and I would never find any girls to marry us because we are too fastidious.
Miss Popper—There was a slight misunderstanding there. I said you were "two fast idiots."—Philadelphia Press.

Books Issued in Germany.

The total number of books issued in Germany was for 1895, 23,067; 1896, 23,239; 1897, 23,861; 1898, 23,739; 1899, 23,715; 1900, 23,792.

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